



Department of Homeland Security National Infrastructure Protection Center

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 14 March 2003

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



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www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- The Birmingham News reports federal workers failed to inform the Birmingham International Airport of a security test Tuesday, causing inspectors to be mistaken for miscreants, a shutdown of the facility, and a two-hour delay for hundreds of passengers. (See item [8](#))
- Reuters reports the U.S. House of Representatives has approved a series of public health bills, including one that would give grants and technical assistance to help states eradicate mosquitoes in order to control West Nile virus. (See item [18](#))
- Government Executive reports the Homeland Security Department's undersecretary for border and transportation security says that Immigration officials expect to meet their Dec. 31 deadline for implementing an automated system to document all foreigners who enter and exit U.S. airports and seaports. (See item [23](#))
- eSecurity Planet reports Norway-based Opera Software has pushed out a new version of its Opera 7 browser because of issues surrounding security. (See item [27](#))

DHS/NIPC Update *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

Service Industries: [Banking and Finance](#); [Transportation](#); [Postal and Shipping](#)

Sustenance and Health: [Agriculture](#); [Food](#); [Water](#); [Public Health](#)

Federal and State: [Government](#); [Emergency Services](#)

IT and Cyber: [Information and Telecommunications](#); [Internet Alert Dashboard](#)

Other: [General](#); [DHS/NIPC Web Information](#)

Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: Elevated, Cyber: Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *March 13, Los Angeles Times* — FERC to release energy findings . Keeping a commitment to wrap up its California energy crisis investigations in the first quarter, the Federal

Energy Regulatory Commission said Wednesday that it plans to release its findings March 26 on the manipulation of Western energy markets and on California's request for refunds and renegotiated long-term power contracts. FERC also will release its findings on whether El Paso Corp. withheld natural-gas supplies from the state. FERC Chairman Patrick H. Wood III told reporters that the commission intends to make public evidence submitted by California officials to support allegations of energy-market manipulation, as well as documents amassed by FERC staff in its own probe of the matter. However, Wood acknowledged that possible legal challenges could delay the release of tens of thousands of pages of documents. **This grew out of California's 18 months of energy chaos, during which the price of electricity and natural gas skyrocketed and the state's two largest electricity utilities became technically insolvent because of power-purchasing debts.**

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-ferc13mar13.1.7805542.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dbusiness>

2. *March 13, Canoe (Canada)* — **Pickering nuclear station out of service, but no worry about blackouts.** The Canadian province's largest electricity producer confirmed Thursday the Pickering nuclear station (called A and B, east of Toronto) has been forced out of service, but a spokesman for Ontario Power Generation (OPG) said there was no need for consumers to worry about safety. "I can assure you that there has not been and is no safety concern at Pickering," John Earl told CablePulse 24. **Earl said the station's power-generating units were taken offline to repair a water-supply system on the non-nuclear side of the generating station.** The station was still shut down Thursday morning and Earl said that for competitive industry reasons, he can't say when the facility will be brought back on line. Terry Young, of the Independent Electricity Market Operator, said there is no risk of power blackouts because the demand for electricity is relatively low right now because of warmer weather. Source: <http://www.canoe.ca/OntQueTicker/CANOE-wire.Nuclear-Shutdown.html>

3. *March 12, Greenwire* — **Ohio's Davis-Besse reactor head replaced . FirstEnergy Corp.'s Davis-Besse nuclear plant in Oak Harbor, Ohio, reached a symbolic milestone yesterday as workers put a new lid on the plant's reactor. But the facility must pass several tests before it can restart.** Davis-Besse has been idle since February 2002 when it was closed for refueling, maintenance and a safety inspection. In March 2002, investigators discovered that acid in cooling water ate a hole nearly all the way through the plant's six-inch-thick nuclear reactor lid. If the corrosion had grown much worse, the plant could have released thousands of gallons of slightly radioactive water inside the reactor's containment building. NRC officials acknowledged that the new reactor head was a symbol of progress toward a restart of Davis-Besse, **but dozens of inspections scheduled through early May continue to prolong the process. FirstEnergy maintains that the plant will be ready to restart in April.** Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3707295

4. *March 12, Kansas City Star* — **City plans to bury 1,200 residential power lines by 2005.** Establishing criteria for which property owners will receive this benefit occupied the Independence (Missouri) City Council during a study session Monday night. **Following the 2002 ice storm, the city received a \$1.1 million grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. With \$375,000 in matching funds supplied the city, the city's electric utility now has about \$1.5 million to pay for the burial of lines.** In that light, the city already has identified 25 sections of the city that most need to place the lines underground. The

city determined the areas by studying districts that have reported the greatest amount of line damage since 1990. Most qualified areas are in the older, western half of Independence.

Though participation is voluntary, eligible homeowners will need to sign a participation agreement. They will be responsible for sodding and reseeding after any trenching and for removing the overhead "mast if the electric service line is currently attached to the house." The utility will be responsible for installing the underground electric service conduit, removing the overhead line and replacing any removed dirt or sod in the trench.

Source: http://hsweb01.screamingmedia.com/PMA/pma_newsarticle1_national.htm?SMDOCID=krdigital_2003_03_12_eng-krdigital_eng-krdigital_045126_785842371755423399a

5. *March 12, The Charleston Gazette (SC)* — **Communities see economic advantages in wind power.** Clean-air conscious Radnor Township is switching to wind power for the bulk of its municipal electricity needs. **Radnor is joining communities like nearby Media and Swarthmore, and larger cities from Austin, Texas, to Seattle and Los Angeles, that are finding the cost of wind-generated power has dropped enough to make economic as well as environmental sense.** Wind power has sailed under more favorable breezes in recent years as improved technology and government support have shrunk its cost. U.S. Department of Energy grants of \$40 million in seed money to private companies to develop low-cost, utility-scale wind turbines provided a big push, according to January's Mechanical Engineering magazine. **"Wind turbines could be ready to break into the mainstream of electrical generation before the end of the decade," the American Society of Mechanical Engineers publication reported. The cost of wind energy has dropped from 38 cents a kilowatt in 1980 to less than 10 cents in 1990 and less than 5 cents at some wind farms today, according to the American Wind Energy Association.** Costs without the production tax credit now range from 4 to 6 cents per kilowatt, and with the credit from 3.3 to 5.3 cents per kilowatt hour – very close to the 3-cent cost of using traditional fuels, according to the group. Wind currently generates less than 1 percent of the country's electricity, but the DOE's Wind Powering America initiative calls for generating at least 5 percent from wind by 2020.
- Source: http://www.energycentral.com/sections/news/nw_article.cfm?id=3707254

[[Return to top](#)]

Chemical Sector

6. *March 13, WUSA9 News* — **Overtaken chemical truck closes Maryland Route 50.** U.S. Route 50 has been closed in both directions near Bowie, MD, because of an overturned chemical tanker. Prince George's County fire spokesman Chauncey Bowers says **the truck carrying the chemical ferric chloride overturned on the highway just outside Martin Luther King Avenue. The truck was carrying about four-thousand gallons of the chemical.** An unknown amount has spilled but the leak has been contained. Route 50 is closed in both directions during the cleanup.
- Source: http://www.wusatv9.com/news/news_article.asp?storyid=15779

[[Return to top](#)]

Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *March 12, Federal Computer Week* — **DoD leaders emphasize space.** Space-based assets are critical to nearly every aspect of how the Defense Department wages war, and their importance will only increase as the military services continue to transform into a network-centric force, according to a panel of DoD leaders. But in order to remain relevant and useful in peacetime and during conflicts, numerous space systems and programs must be modernized and upgraded, while others require substantial funding in order to be ready in the years ahead. **Peter Teets, undersecretary of the Air Force and director of the National Reconnaissance Office, is DoD's point person for national security space activities and has identified eight priorities for those efforts this year that he said also shape the fiscal 2004 budget requests for those programs.** Teets said DoD is making progress in all of the areas, but more must be done, particularly in integrating military and intelligence community space assets, and in developing a "space cadre" of professionals within the Air Force and the entire DoD. "Our goals for improved integration include providing communications, environmental sensing, and precise position and timing information to support a common operational picture of the battlespace, and facilitating cross-platform command, control and communications," he said.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0310/web-space-03-12-03.asp>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

8. *March 13, Birmingham News* — **TSA security test shut airport.** Federal workers failed to inform the Birmingham International Airport of a security test Tuesday, causing inspectors to be mistaken for miscreants, a shutdown of the facility and a two-hour delay for hundreds of passengers, officials said. **The Transportation Security Administration requires airport personnel be notified of inspections, said spokesman Ed Martelle. For some reason, he added, this did not happen in Birmingham.** Airport officials responded appropriately when they closed the gates and runway after discovering four unauthorized individuals on the tarmac, he said. **The scare occurred Tuesday evening when airline employees discovered four people under concourses who had TSA identification but no proper badges for the area.** As employees reported the apparent breach to authorities, airport spokeswoman Patty Howell said the individuals disappeared. Airport officials immediately locked down the facility, closing the concourses and disembarking passengers from planes to recheck them through security. Nobody was allowed to enter or exit the airport during the sweep. Arriving planes were forced to circle.

Source: http://www.al.com/news/birminghamnews/index.ssf?/xml/story.ssf/html_standard.xsl?/base/news/104755416728290.xml

9.

March 13, Department of Transportation — **Transportation Secretary Mineta announces new state freight profiles to assist state and local groups to examine freight movements.** U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta announced on Wednesday the release of State Freight Profiles, a series of short reports that provide a snapshot of freight flows, including maps, and expected forecasts of tonnages and traffic patterns in each state. The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that America's transportation system by 2020 will handle cargo valued at almost \$30 trillion, compared with \$9 trillion today. Volumes, in tons, will increase by almost 70 percent over current levels of 15 billion tons. The department also says that international freight volumes will almost double by 2020. **As a result, each state will experience large freight volumes on its transportation infrastructure over the next 20 years, with the potential for increased congestion and greater inefficiencies throughout the nation's transportation system.** By using the State Freight Profiles, state and local decision-makers can determine which transportation corridors are experiencing, or will experience, large freight volumes. State and local agencies then can select the appropriate congestion alleviation strategies or develop targeted multi-state or regional approaches to help reduce bottlenecks and improve freight operations.
Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/fhwa0503.htm>

10. *March 13, Los Angeles Daily News* — **County emergency agencies stage anti-terrorism drills.** Public transit and law enforcement agencies held an anti-terrorism drill Wednesday morning at an El Monte bus station, based on the make-believe scenario of a "dirty" radioactive bomb exploding on **It was all part of a countywide effort to hone post-Sept. 11, 2001, skills in dealing with a terrorist attack and other emergencies.** In Pasadena, authorities were dealing with a make-believe situation in which a power substation failure affects the Gold Line light-rail transportation system. At Los Angeles International Airport, they handled a jet fuel fire. **"There is a heightened awareness these days," said Jack Gabig, general manager for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. "The training is to prevent things from happening."** During the drill, a 50-member emergency crew responded to the mock detonation of a dirty bomb releasing radioactive contaminants and resulting in five make-believe fatalities.
Source: <http://www.dailynews.com/Stories/0,1413,200~20954~1239745,00.html#>

11. *March 12, Federal Computer Week* — **TSA prepping smart card pilots.** The Transportation Security Administration has neared the end of the planning phase for its smart card program and is finalizing a set of requirements for two pilot sites. "We're optimistic that we're going to be able to move forward very, very soon on this program," said Chris Rhatigan, a spokeswoman for TSA. **The agency is preparing to launch pilot projects for its Transportation Worker Identification Credential system, which will provide employees at airports, ports, railways and other locations with secure access to buildings and systems. The pilot projects will run in the Philadelphia/Wilmington, DE, and the Los Angeles/Long Beach, CA regions.**
Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0310/web-twic-03-12-03.asp>

12. *March 12, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Department of Transportation* — **Report shows Detroit and El Paso continue as top gateways for personal vehicles entering the U.S.** More personal vehicles – cars, trucks, SUVs, vans and other motorized ground vehicles – entered the United States from Canada through Detroit, MI and from Mexico through El Paso, TX in 2001 than through any other gateway on those borders, according to the Bureau of

Transportation Statistics' National Transportation Statistics 2002, a new publication released on Wednesday. Detroit, where over 7.5 million inbound vehicle crossings from Canada took place in 2001, also held this top "gateway" spot throughout the 1990s. Although vehicular crossings through Detroit started to decline in 2000, the decline was more pronounced in 2001 due in part to the impact of 9/11. For the third year in a row, El Paso remained the top vehicle entry point on the Mexican border. More than 16 million personal vehicles crossed into the U.S. through El Paso in 2001, over half a million less than in 2000. **San Ysidro, CA, where just over 15 million car, truck, SUV, van and motorcycle crossings took place in 2001 – or just under a million more than in 2000 – was one of the few ports of entry showing a rise in traffic.**

Source: http://www.bts.gov/PressReleases/2003/bts002_03.html

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

13. *March 13, The Business Times* — Possible Iraqi war will not deter shipping from the Persian Gulf. Shipping companies trading in the Persian Gulf say it will be mostly business as usual regardless of whether war is unleashed on Iraq. Dubai-based feeder operator Simatech Shipping, said that **neither the United Nations' Middle East office or the U.S. Navy's Maritime Liaison Office in Bahrain had given any warning to commercial shipping to avoid the upper Gulf region or Iraqi ports.** A spokesman from Singapore-based container feeder operator Orient Express Line (OEL) said that **one OEL vessel is caught in a two week delay in berthing at Umm Qasr. The delay is due to the Iraqi military requisitioning many of the trucks and cranes needed for loading and unloading at the port,** according to a Gulf News report. **As the Persian Gulf is the world's major producer of crude oil, the potential impact of war on the tanker shipping industry is also significant.** However, many in the industry point to the fact that tanker operations in the area during the 1991 Gulf War were virtually problem free. Military analysts agree, saying **the threat to shipping from a belligerent Iraq is virtually null as the country has no navy, controls only a tiny portion of coastline in the very northern reaches of the Gulf, has limited missile capability and is hemmed in by an enormous U.S. and British naval force.** An armada of allied vessels are also stationed in the Gulf with the sole purpose of safeguarding oil loading facilities as well as the tankers themselves.

Source: http://business-times.asia1.com.sg/sub/shippingtimes/story/0_4574.75145.00.html?

14. *March 13, Dow Jones Newswires* — **Mexico asks U.S. to address cross-border trucking dispute.** Mexico's Economy Ministry said Wednesday it has proposed an "urgent" meeting with U.S. transport authorities to find a way for Mexican truckers to operate in the U.S., as stipulated in the North American Free Trade Agreement. **Mexican drivers were due to have access to U.S. roads in 2000, but environmental and labor groups succeeded in blocking their entry. U.S. operators have been able to set up joint-ventures in Mexico since 1995.** The Economy Ministry said Wednesday that the U.S. Department of Transportation has received close to 1,500 applications from Mexican truckers interested in making long-hauls north of the border. **Still, Mexican trucks remain restricted to a narrow, 20-mile unloading zone on the U.S. side of the border. To receive permission to operate on an 18-month trial basis, Mexican operators will have to show they meet U.S. safety and environmental standards, as well as prove that their drivers are drug- and alcohol-free.**

Source: <http://sg.biz.yahoo.com/030312/15/38vjk.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture Sector

15. *March 13, Calgary Herald* — **Canada heads off cattle virus. Alberta, Canada will unveil tough new measures to prevent an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. But officials warn the measures would only slow the spread of disease, adding any outbreak could infect hundreds of thousands of animals, devastating the province's multibillion-dollar livestock industry.** Under the Alberta government's new disease control program ranchers will be asked to set aside hundreds of acres of land as potential burial sites for infected livestock. If an infection of foot-and-mouth is suspected in Alberta, a series of emergency measures would kick into gear. Blood samples from animals believed to be infected would be flown via charter jet to the National Microbiology Laboratory in Winnipeg for immediate testing, with results available within hours. Animal health investigators would immediately begin tracing the past movements of the infected livestock, identifying and quarantining herds the livestock may have contacted. **Upon confirmation of infection, a cease movement order would halt the flow of all livestock in the province. All animals that had come in contact with the infected livestock would be ordered slaughtered and buried in trenches at least three metres deep and away from areas containing groundwater.**

Source: <http://canada.com/national/story.asp?id=%7B4259C0FA-F6F6-4258-9765-5AC1F57F1BAC%7D>

16. *March 12, North Forty News* — **Birds should be tested for Newcastle disease. Several Colorado State University Cooperative Extension offices will be drop-off sites for birds that should be tested for Exotic Newcastle disease as part of the Colorado Department of Agriculture's surveillance for the disease.** Exotic Newcastle disease is a contagious and fatal viral disease that affects all bird species. The disease has been detected in neighboring states, but has not yet been found in Colorado. **The Colorado Department of Agriculture is testing dead birds that exhibited symptoms of the disease in an effort to prevent the disease from spreading into Colorado. Twenty-four extension offices will have sanitary supplies available to collect samples that will be transported for testing. All of the offices have information about the disease.**

Source: http://www.northfortynews.com/News/updates/20030312update_NewcastleDisease.htm

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Food Sector

Nothing to report.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

17. *March 13, Water Tech Online* — **Vital water-sharing deal reached in Southern California.** Declaring a tentative end to a potentially disastrous California water war, Gov. Gray Davis pledged \$350 million in state funds and loan guarantees Wednesday to revive a farm-to-city water sale crucial to restoring the state's claim to the Colorado River. **Davis' plan could settle years of bickering between California and neighboring states over rights to the Colorado River, a major water source for millions of Southern Californians. The plan, if finalized, would have the water-rich Imperial Irrigation District idle some of its farmland and sell some of its water to the San Diego County Water Authority.**

Source: <http://www.watertechonline.com/news.asp?mode=4font>>

[[Return to top](#)]

Public Health Sector

18. *March 13, Reuters* — **U.S. House passes bill aimed at West Nile virus. The U.S. House of Representatives Wednesday approved a series of public health bills, including one that would give grants and technical assistance to help states eradicate mosquitoes in order to control West Nile virus.** The House passed the Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health Act. The bill would authorize \$100 million for the current fiscal year, and unspecified amounts for the next four years for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to make the grants. **States could use the grants to coordinate mosquito-control programs statewide, and to provide funds to localities to develop similar plans.**

Source: <http://reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=healthNews=2375790>

19. *March 13, American Society for Microbiology* — **First step towards detecting exposure to biowarfare agents. Army researchers are laying the groundwork for what one day could be a test to identify individuals who have been exposed to biological agents.** "Recent events have demonstrated that assessing exposure to a biological threat agent well in advance of onset of illness or at various stages post-exposure would be an important capability to have among the diagnostic options," says Marti Jett of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. **After exposure to a biological agent an individual's cells begin to react almost immediately. This reaction is characterized by a unique combination of genes activated or expressed in response to the organism. Jett and colleagues from Walter Reed and the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases have identified the unique gene expression patterns from human cells induced in response to eight different biothreat agents.** "The overall objective has been to create a library of host gene expression responses typical of various biological threat and infectious agents and to begin to correlate gene patterns to predict course of impending illness," says Jett.

Source: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2003/03/030313081506.htm>

20. *March 13, Voice of America* — **WHO issues worldwide warning about flu-like illness. The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a worldwide warning to health authorities about a flu-like illness that has spread quickly among health workers in Hong Kong and Vietnam.** At least two health workers in mainland China are being closely monitored. **Hong Kong's Hospital Authority announced on Thursday that at least 38 health care workers at one hospital have come down with flu-like symptoms. At least 23 of those workers were diagnosed with atypical pneumonia and two are in critical condition. Dr. William Ho, the**

chief executive of the hospital authority, says the agent causing the sickness is likely an airborne virus. He says the outbreak in Hong Kong has not spread outside the hospitals. **A separate outbreak in recent days of flu-like illnesses affected at least 20 hospital staff members in Vietnam.** Health authorities in Hong Kong have ruled out a connection between the current outbreak and the avian flu virus, which killed at least six people in Hong Kong in the late 1990's.

Source: <http://www.voanews.com/article.cfm?objectID=F73524D0-F473-4ABA-ABBBB7B89779D1E0>

21. *March 13, Bozeman Daily Chronicle* — **MSU scientists find antibiotic plant that could fight anthrax, malaria.** An Australian plant used in Aboriginal communities to dress wounds contains antibiotics that could be useful in agriculture and human medicine, according to research led by scientists at Montana State University (MSU). **Four compounds were isolated from the snakevine plant and lab-tested against organisms that cause a variety of plant diseases as well as those that cause tuberculosis, anthrax, drug-resistant infections, and malaria in humans. The scientists must do more work before they know whether the compounds will work in humans.** "A main source of antibiotics are streptomyces, bacteria which are usually found in the soil," said MSU plant scientist and study co-author Gary Strobel. "These are different streptomyces we know that from their DNA sequences.

Source: http://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/articles/2003/03/12/new_s/antibioticbzbigs.txt

[[Return to top](#)]

Government Sector

22. *March 12, Federal Computer Week* — **DHS, governors linking up.** The Department of Homeland Security is on the verge of connecting 26 governors' offices with the department for secure videoconferencing in the event of another terrorist attack. In the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks, federal, state and local officials complained that no secure communications network existed to keep them informed or help coordinate an emergency response. But now, **the new department is opening up a network to communicate with the nation's governors in the event of a crisis.** Steve Cooper, the department's chief information officer said that the hookups were selected by determining how far a governor has to travel from his or her office to the state's emergency operations center. Priority goes to the ones with the longest distance.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2003/0310/web-hsd-03-12-03.a.sp>

23. *March 12, Government Executive* — **Homeland officials expect to meet immigration deadlines.** Immigration officials expect to meet their Dec. 31 deadline for implementing an automated system for documenting all foreigners who enter and exit U.S. airports and seaports, the Homeland Security Department's undersecretary for border and transportation security told a Senate panel on Wednesday. **"There has been a substantial amount of work that has gone into that," Asa Hutchinson said during a joint hearing before two Senate Judiciary subcommittees. "We believe the first deadline of [collecting] entry-exit information at our airports and seaports can be met this year."** "We're currently collecting arrival and departure data for all visa-waiver passengers arriving in and leaving from the United States," according to Robert Moczyn, director of the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement's entry-exit

program, referring to a program that allows citizens of 27 participating countries to visit the United States for 90 days or less without first obtaining visas. "We will build upon that to meet the 2003 [deadline]." **But Mocny said tracking visa-waiver passengers who fail to leave the United States within 90 days still poses a challenge for immigration officials. The automated tracking system produces an "exception report" for people who overstay their welcome, he said, but "at this point, we're not in a position to be able to go and find that person immediately. That's what we're going to work on ... but we are collecting arrival and departure data."**

Source: <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0303/031203td1.htm>

24. *March 12, Harvard University* — **Nunn, Lugar: programs to secure vulnerable nuclear weapons and materials must be accelerated and reshaped to meet terrorist threat.** Former Senator Sam Nunn and Senator Richard G. Lugar, the original sponsors of the Cooperative Threat Reduction program, said on Wednesday that the approach and pace of these programs is inadequate to the threat. Nunn and Lugar made the comments at a news conference to release a new report from Harvard University on steps to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of terrorists and hostile states. The new report, "Controlling Nuclear Warheads and Materials: A Report Card and Action Plan," — see http://www.nti.org/e_research/cnwm/cnwm.pdf — says the effort requires immediate attention from the highest levels of U.S., Russian and other governments and calls on the response to be "every bit as determined and resourceful as the terrorists are." **According to the report, U.S. threat reduction programs have secured and destroyed enough nuclear material for thousands of nuclear bombs, demonstrably improving U.S. and global security, but most of what needs to be done to keep nuclear weapons out of terrorists hands has not yet been done and the pace at which the remaining work is moving forward is "unacceptably slow."**

Source: http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/press/bunn_nunn_lugar_031203.htm

25. *March 10, Federal Times* — **Department seeks ideas from foreign markets.** The Homeland Security Department is signaling its intent to search the international marketplace for counterterror technologies, training and expertise that may not exist at home. Executives from foreign companies and officials from foreign countries say they are encouraged by what they are hearing, but they have yet to see results in the form of sales contracts. **Deputy Homeland Security Secretary Gordon England made clear the new department's openness to ideas from overseas in an address to foreign defense attaches in February. The United States will "seek to identify areas for homeland security information and training exchange where the United States has a demonstrated weakness and another friendly nation or nations have a demonstrated expertise," England told a gathering of the Defense Attaches' Corps at the Canadian Embassy.** He asked friendly nations to share "best practices and technologies, including exchange of information on research and development on homeland security technologies." He also suggested joint training for first responders.

Source: <http://federaltimes.com/index.php?S=1645072>

[[Return to top](#)]

Emergency Services Sector

26.

March 13, Copley News Service — **Statewide anti-terrorism center to be established in Springfield.** Illinois is stepping up its fight against terrorism by establishing a Springfield-based, statewide center to sift through terrorism information and alert authorities about public safety threats in their communities. **Gov. Rod Blagojevich delivered the news during his State of the State address Wednesday. He referred to military personnel who are serving near Iraq, then added that terrorism "is something we have to think about at home, too."** "Hopefully, we'll never experience a terrorist attack on our soil. But we can't just rely on hope," the governor said. "That is why I am announcing the creation of a statewide terrorism intelligence center in Springfield." "We can do more to protect the people of Illinois from a terrorist attack, but it's going to take 24-hour, seven-day-a-week intelligence and teamwork with the FBI, the CIA and the Department of Homeland Security," he said. "This center will be a model for how national, state and local law enforcement can work together to keep us safe." **The state will spend \$1 million on the new terrorism intelligence center, which should open this spring, said Blagojevich spokesman Tom Schafer.**

Source: <http://www.pjstar.com/news/topnews/g152580a.html>

[[Return to top](#)]

Information and Telecommunications Sector

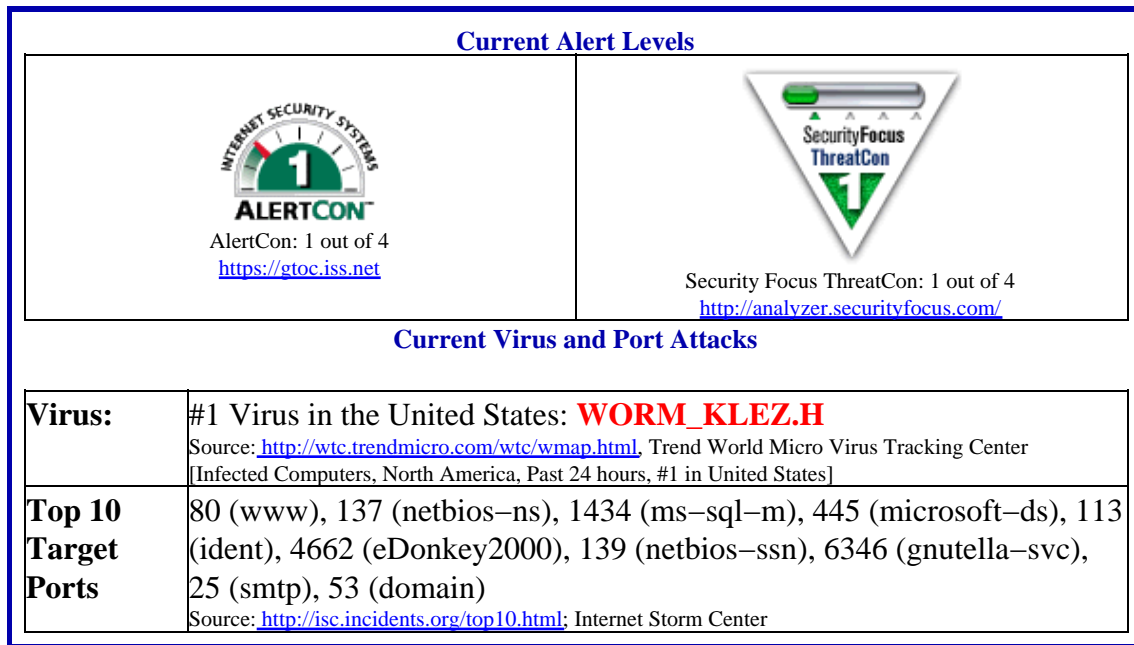
27. *March 13, eSecurity Planet* — **Opera rushes out another security fix.** Norway-based Opera Software has pushed out a new version of its Opera 7 browser because of issues surrounding security. The bug, which affects both versions 6.x and 7.x, was detected in the browser's handling of filenames when showing the "Download Dialog" box. **"The problem is that very long filenames are handled incorrectly. This allows a malicious website to create a filename that causes a buffer overflow which can be exploited to execute arbitrary code,"** according to an alert from IT security services firm Secunia. In releasing the new Opera 7.03 version, the company confirmed the Secunia findings. Secunia warned that **exploits for the vulnerability are in the wild for Windows, noting that "exploitation does not require user interaction as Web sites can spawn the "Download Dialog" automatically."**

Source: <http://www.esecurityplanet.com/trends/article.php/2109161>

28. *March 12, Associated Press* — **Iraqis could try to jam satellite signals. Iraq could try to jam U.S. military satellite signals during a possible invasion, but the United States has defenses against such attempts, Pentagon officials said Wednesday. Iraq also reportedly is seeking ways to jam the Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) signals that help guide U.S. bombs.** At the Pentagon, Brig. General Franklin Blaisdell and Army Col. Steven Fox promoted what they said was America's dominance of space as a key strength in any future military operations. **Satellites allow U.S. commanders to see what is going on in hostile countries, communicate with soldiers and pilots, and guide precision weapons.** The Army has more than 1,000 transmitters that help it keep track of soldiers and units while a battle is going on, Fox said. As it did during the 1991 Persian Gulf War, **the Defense Department is buying access to commercial communications satellites to help serve the massive bandwidth needed to connect all the high-tech gear, Blaisdell said. The military also successfully launched a broadband communications satellite on Monday, he said.**

Source: <http://www.armytimes.com/story.php?f=1-292925-1658845.php>

Internet Alert Dashboard



[\[Return to top\]](#)

General Sector

29. *March 13, New York Times* — **In antiterror effort, Canada's authorities use surveillance more than arrests.** Mohammed Mansur Jabarah 's odyssey from Canadian suburbia to Islamic jihad stunned officials here and raised a disturbing question: how many of Canada's 650,000 Muslim residents have been lured into terrorism? **Such concerns prompted the Canadian Parliament, three months after the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States, to enact a sweeping antiterror bill. The police were given wider latitude in arresting terror suspects preventively; suspects can now be deported on the basis of evidence that can be withheld from their defense lawyers. In addition, reluctant witnesses can be obliged to give evidence in ongoing terror inquiries.** But so far, the powers have been used only sparingly. One suspect has been deported, and four more are fighting deportation. A mere quarter-million dollars has been frozen in bank accounts of charities believed to be funnels for terrorist groups. Not a single suspect has been preventively detained to avert a terrorist act. **The relatively sparse activity contrasts sharply with efforts in the United States and several European countries, which have detained or arrested scores of suspects and frozen tens of millions of dollars.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/03/13/international/americas/13C ANA.html>

30. *March 13, CNN* — **Indian train blast kills 10.** At least 10 people were killed in a rush-hour blast that went off in a commuter train, according to a local member of parliament. **Kirit Somaiya, speaking to CNN, said some of the dead were women as the blast went off in a compartment reserved for women -- a fixture on some Mumbai trains. Local media reports said at least 50 people were injured in the explosion on Thursday. The train, carrying commuters home, was pulling out of Mumbai's Mulund station when the blast occurred.** No group has claimed responsibility. A lawmaker from the ruling party told local

television there were at least 200 people in the damaged car.

Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2003/WORLD/asiapcf/south/03/13/india.train/>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

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